

**From:** branden\_hoopes@peoplesoft.com@inetgw  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/3/02 12:27pm  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

To whom it may concern:

I have no business affiliation with Microsoft. I am simply a very happy consumer of their products. I have used Microsoft and competing products for years and I firmly believe that Microsoft's dominance in the market is the result of a superior product. Computer software has never been so easy to use and has never been so integrated.

On the other hand, I am not blind to the mistakes Microsoft has made. However, I believe the remedies agreed to by Microsoft and the Department of Justice are more than adequate. The states that have chosen to not accept the agreement between nine states, Microsoft, and the Department of Justice are states in which Microsoft's largest competitors are based. These states are rejecting the settlement because large corporations in there districts want Microsoft removed as a competitor, NOT because there is a public outcry by consumers over how they have been mistreated and overcharged by Microsoft.

Please accept the proposed agreement and let Microsoft survive. The alternative remedy proposed by the other nine states would cripple Microsoft, demoralize their employees, and ruin any incentive the company has for continued innovation of their products. It would be a mistake far bigger than the collapse of Enron.

Branden Hoopes  
A happy Microsoft consumer